[29th October 1935

Introduction of religious instruction in public educational institutions.

* 262 *Q.*—Mr. G. Rameswara Rao: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government propose to introduce religious instruction in all public educational institutions in this Presidency; and

(*b*) if so, when?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no such general proposal under consideration.

Rules made by the Director of Public Instruction reducing the percentage of promotions in high schools.

* 263 *Q.*—Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Director of Public Instruction has recently issued new rules as to the promotion of pupils in the high schools restricting the percentage of passes to a percentage lower than what it used to be in previous years; and

(*b*) whether copies of these rules will be placed on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) No such new rules restricting the percentage of passes has been issued by the Director.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Educational concessions granted to the dependants of sepoys during 1934–35.

* 264 *Q.*—Mr. G. Rameswara Rao: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) the nature of concessions granted for the education of the soldiers' dependants in 1934–35;

(*b*) the total amount of expenditure incurred in that connexion under various heads; and

(*c*) similar figures and information regarding sepoys' dependants also?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The educational concessions admissible to the dependants of Indian, Anglo-Indian or European soldiers who took part in the Great War are—

(1) exemption from payment of fees in schools and colleges;

(2) grant of an allowance for books, etc., to children reading in schools; and

(3) exemption from payment of the fee for admission to Public Examinations (Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Examination or the European High School Examination as the case may be).